

RESOLUTION ON EAST TIMOR

Noting that the forcible takeover of East Timor by Indonesia has led to continuing conflict in the territory;

Considering the Socialist International resolution of October 1993 in Lisbon, the Tokyo resolution of May 1994 and the Manila Declaration of February 1995 and UN efforts to initiate talks between Indonesia and Portugal under the auspices of the UN Secretary-General;

Deeply deplores the continuing violation of human and political rights in East Timor and notes with particular concern the disturbances, arrests and killings which have taken place in recent weeks;

Noting that the Indonesian government has not yet developed confidence-building measures, such as the further opening of the territory to humanitarian and assistance organisations, reducing the military presence in the territory, allowing for the full expression of cultural and religious rights of the East Timorese people, nor releasing all political prisoners;

Calls on the Indonesian Government to make a major reduction of the military presence in East Timor and enter into a process of reconciliation with the people of East Timor, including the resistance forces; and

Urges, as a confidence-building measure in this process, the release of all political prisoners and the free movement of Timorese citizens into and out of the territory.

STATEMENT

The Committee discussed the fact that the UN General Assembly had resolved to set the year 2000 as the year by which colonialism should be eliminated. The Committee notes that not all non-self-governing territories are listed with the UN Special Committee on Decolonisation. The Committee undertakes to discuss further the status of non-self-governing territories in the Asia-Pacific region with a view to taking a position on which territories should be added to the UN's list of non-self-governing territories. This will be an agenda item for the next meeting of the Committee.
